

an overlaying sheet attached to the upper surface of the base sheet at a plurality of locations within the periphery of the [thermal blanket] cover;

the overlaying sheet sealed to the upper surface of the base sheet near the periphery of the [thermal blanket] cover to form an inflatable structure comprising the overlaying sheet and the base sheet;

a non-inflatable portion of the inflatable structure near a head end; and

an opening near a foot end for admitting warmed air to the inflatable structure;

whereby,

the opening, the inflatable structure, and the apertures allow air to inflate the [thermal blanket] cover and to be exhausted from the [thermal blanket] cover.

21. (Twice Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, wherein the opening is into the center of the inflatable structure.

C 22. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, wherein the inflatable structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base sheet.

23. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, wherein the fibrous material is paper.

24. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, wherein the plurality of apertures have a density pattern in which the density of the apertures in the base sheet increases in a direction toward the periphery of the [thermal blanket] cover.

25. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, wherein the upper surface of the base sheet is a plastic material.

26. (Twice Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 25, wherein the opening is into the center of the inflatable structure.

27. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 25, wherein the inflatable structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base sheet.

28. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 25, wherein the fibrous material is paper.

29. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 25, wherein the base sheet includes an upper layer of plastic material on the under layer, a surface of the upper layer being the upper surface.

30. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 29, wherein the inflatable structure includes space between the overlaying sheet and the upper surface of the base sheet.

31. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 29, wherein the is a fibrous material is paper.

C 32. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 31, wherein the plurality of locations form the inflatable structure into a plurality of elongate, parallel, mutually conducting tubes.

33. (Amended) The [thermal blanket] cover of Claims 20 or 32, wherein the [thermal blanket] cover comprises a self-erecting structure.

34. (Amended) A combination for warming a person with the [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 20, the combination comprising:

- an air hose having two ends;
- means for connecting a first end of the air hose to the opening of the [thermal blanket] cover; and
- a heater/blower connected to a second end of the air hose.

35. (Twice Amended) An inflatable [thermal blanket] cover, comprising:
a flexible, multi-layer base sheet with a fibrous underlayer and an upper surface;
a flexible upper sheet attached to the upper surface of the base sheet;
the base sheet and upper sheet forming an inflatable structure;
the inflatable structure having two opposing ends;
a non-inflatable portion defining a recess near a first end of the inflatable structure;
an inflation inlet near a second end of the inflatable structure for admitting an inflating medium into the inflatable structure; and
a plurality of apertures opening through the base sheet for exhausting the inflating medium from the inflatable structure.

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36. (Twice Amended) The inflatable [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 35, wherein the first end is a head end of the inflatable structure and the non-inflatable recess is defined by a seal near the head end that seals the upper sheet to the base sheet at the head end.

37. (Twice Amended) The inflatable [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 35, further including a plurality of seals between the base sheet and the upper sheet that form the inflatable structure into a plurality of elongate, parallel, mutually communicating chambers.

38. (Amended) The inflatable [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 37, wherein the inflatable structure is a self-erecting structure.

39. (Amended) The inflatable [thermal blanket] cover of Claim 38, the base sheet further including an upper layer of a flexible material attached to the fibrous under layer.

REMARKS

This response is submitted in a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) filed subsequent to a Final Office Action mailed October 25, 1999. Claims 20-39 are pending in this application and are each amended.